

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Confirmation No.: 6058

Applicant

Yiquing S. Liang et al September 19, 2003

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2661

Examiner

To be assigned

Docket No.

1617880-0002 Con

Customer No.:

007470

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the following amendment and to consider the following remarks:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.

First Class Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Arlington, VA 22313-1450, on February 13, 2004.

Melissa McCool

Name

Signature

February 13, 2004

Date